

**From:** bill hawe  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 5:43pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement -- Bad Idea

Dear Sirs:

As a citizen of the United States and an avid computer user, I find the proposed settlement of the Microsoft anti-trust case to be horrific. The proposed settlement does little if anything to curb the anti-competitive practices of Microsoft. It does not punish them for breaking the law. In fact, it may even further their almost exclusive monopoly. I do not understand why the government would undertake a massive legal effort costing large sums of our taxpayer dollars, win the resulting case and then ask for such a paltry penalty. This settlement will not protect me as a consumer (OS cost per user keeps going up), me as an independent software developer (don't make to good a product or Microsoft will integrate a clone in the OS, a la InternetExplorer, or Window Media Player or ...), nor me as an investor (Netscape being the most famous example).

So please reconsider this 'Settlement'. It will not help anyone other than Microsoft. Allow us to return to the days where the best product at least has a change of success.

Thank you,

Bill Hawe  
San Diego, CA

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